

(d) Yes, Sir. An exclusive Department of Land Management has been established in AAI for monitoring/review of all land allotment and land dispute cases.

Entry of foreign airlines in domestic aviation

546. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Group of Ministers (GoM) has recommended entry of foreign airlines in domestic aviation and allowing 49 per cent foreign direct investment in Civil Aviation Sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) In the meeting held on 11.1.2001, the Group of Ministers (GoM) on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) had, *inter-alia*, recommended FDI upto 49% in the civil aviation sector on the automatic route and permission to foreign airlines to participate in the joint ventures subject to sectoral guidelines of the Civil Aviation Ministry. However, in its meeting held on 9.2.2001 to review some of the recommendations made in the earlier meeting held on 11.1.2001, GoM on FDI, *inter-alia*, decided not to recommended change in the existing policy of domestic air transport sector which permits upto 40% foreign equity and upto 100% Non Resident Indian (NRI)/Overseas Corporate Bodies (OCB) equity participation but prohibits direct or indirect foreign airlines equity.

Upgradation of Bhubaneswar airport

547. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of airports where facilities for handling the export and import of cargo are available;

(b) whether Government propose to provide Cargo handling facilities at Bhubaneswar airport;

(c) if so, by when; and